

Superstition-1936

'Hex' Is Being Driven Out By Pennsylvania Schools

By The Associated Press.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Oct. 19.—

The "hex" is being banished at last from Pennsylvania, public instruction authorities said today.

The terror of many rural communities since the first settlers came is being driven away, they stated, by school teachers who have found that instruction in the sciences, even in the lower grades, is the most effective weapon against superstition. The younger rural folk scorn beliefs that struck terror to their kin only a few years ago.

It will take time, a spokesman for the Department of Public Instruction said, but an unrelenting war on the "voodoo," the witch doctor and the use of "signs" and "spells" to cause misfortune or counteract such misfortune, should erase the terror within a few years.

Court records for fifty years show the "hex" responsible for many crimes, including murder and arson.